

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/998,092

Applicant(s)

LIU ET AL.

Examiner

Cam Y T. Truong

Art Unit

2162

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/10/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 24-28,31,32 and 87-100.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 1/13/05, 11/10/06
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


Cam Y Truong
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2162

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant has amended claims 24-28 and 31-32, canceled claims 1-23, 29-30, 33-86, and added claims 87-100 in the amendment filed on 11/10/2006.

Claims 24-28, 31-32, 87-100 are pending in this Office Action.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Lance R. Sadler on 11/20/2006.

In claims:

Claim 24: On page 3:

Line 1, please replace "A computer-readable storage medium" by "
"A tangible computer-readable storage medium for retrieving
information from a media content source";

Line 18, after "corresponding to", please insert "the";

Line 19, after "from", please replace "a media content source" by
"the media content source based on the analysis";

Line 20, after "context previous", please delete "to".

Claim 25: On page 4:

Line 1, please replace "The computer-readable storage medium"
by "The tangible computer-readable storage medium".

Claim 26: On page 4:

Line 4, please replace "The computer-readable storage medium"
by "The tangible computer-readable storage medium";

Claim 27: On page 4:

Line 8, please replace "The computer-readable storage medium"
by "The tangible computer-readable storage medium";

Line 12, after "the suggested media", please "content";

Claim 28: On page 4:

Line 16, please replace "The computer-readable storage medium"
by "The tangible computer-readable storage medium";

Claim 31: On page 5:

Line 1, please replace "The computer-readable storage medium"
by "The tangible computer-readable storage medium";

Claim 32: On page 5:

Line 6, please replace "The computer-readable storage medium"
by "The tangible computer-readable storage medium";

Claim 87: On page 6:

Line 1, after "A computer-implemented method", please insert "for retrieving information from a media content source";

Line 17, after "corresponding to", please insert "the";

Line 18, after "from", please replace "a media content source" by "the media content source based on the analysis".

Line 19, after "context previous", please delete "to".

Claim 90: On page 7:

Line 8, after "the suggested media", please "content";

Claim 94: On page 8:

Line 1, after "A system", please insert "for retrieving information from a media content source";

Line 2, please replace "computer-accessible storage medium" by "tangible computer-readable storage medium";

Line 19, after "corresponding to", please replace "one or more media files from a " by "the one or more media files from the";

Line 20, after "media content source", please insert "based on the analysis";

Line 21, after "context previous", please delete "to".

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 24-28, 31-32, 87-100 are allowed.

The prior art of record, alone or in combination, does not teach or fairly suggest wherein analyzing at least a subset of the user input in view of semantic text and user intention and user preferences modeling, the semantic text comprising the at least a subset and previously collected text from a personal media database customized for the user, the previously collected text being semantically related to one or more previous multimedia accesses by the user, the user preferences modeling containing user log records clustered into several preferences clusters based on clusters semantic similarity, each cluster of the clusters represented by a keyword frequency vector, the analyzing further comprising evaluating the user input based on lexical and syntactical features; retrieving information corresponding to the one or more media files from the media content source based on the analysis ; wherein the retrieved information was generated in response to a user context previous and different from the present user context" as recited in claims 24 and 87; and

The prior art of record, alone or in combination, does not teach or fairly suggest wherein analyze at least a subset of the user input in view of semantic text and user intention and user preferences modeling, the semantic text comprising the at least a subset and previously collected text from a personal media database customized for the

Art Unit: 2162


user, the previously collected text being semantically related to one or more previous multimedia accesses by the user, the user preferences modeling containing user log records clustered into several preferences clusters based on clusters semantic similarity, each cluster of the clusters represented by a keyword frequency vector, the analyzing further comprising evaluating the user input based on lexical and syntactical features; retrieve information corresponding to the one or more media files from the media content source based on the analysis; wherein the retrieved information was generated in response to a user context previous and different from the present user context" as recited in claim 94.

Contact Information

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cam Y T. Truong whose telephone number is (571) 272-4042. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Cam Y Truong
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